

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method of managing a project, comprising:
 - 2 (a) receiving data representing attributes of a project from a project manager, the project
 - 3 comprising at least one task;
 - 4 (b) receiving data identifying attributes of the task;
 - 5 (c) assigning the at least one task to at least one task-responsible person;
 - 6 (d) automatically providing a notice to the task-responsible person, the notice identifying the
 - 7 assignment of the task;
 - 8 (e) receiving at least one task report from the corresponding task-responsible person;
 - 9 (f) providing the corresponding task-responsible person and the project manager read-write
 - 10 access to the task report; and
 - 11 (g) providing at least one other person read-only access to the task report.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein
 - 2 the project comprises a plurality of tasks;
 - 3 step (b) includes receiving data identifying attributes of a plurality of tasks; and
 - 4 step (e) includes receiving a plurality of task reports from a plurality of corresponding
 - 5 task-responsible persons.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein step (c) includes assigning an additional task to the at
 - 2 least one other person having read-only access to the task report.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - 2 automatically providing a notice to the project manager upon completion of one of the
 - 3 tasks.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the data identifying attributes of the task contain a due
 - 2 date, the method further comprising:
 - 3 automatically providing a notice to the task-responsible person, the notice identifying the
 - 4 due date, the notice being provided a predetermined number of days before the due date.

1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the task comprises at least one item, the method further
2 comprising:
3 (a) receiving data representing attributes of the item;
4 (b) assigning the at least one item to at least one item-responsible person;
5 (c) automatically providing a notice to the item-responsible person, the notice identifying the
6 assignment of the item;
7 (d) receiving at least one item report from the corresponding item-responsible person;
8 (e) providing the corresponding item-responsible person, the corresponding task-responsible
9 person, and the project manager read-write access to the item report; and
10 (f) providing at least one other person read-only access to the item report.

1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the task comprises a plurality of items, wherein:
2 step (a) includes receiving data representing attributes of a plurality of items; and
3 step (d) includes receiving a plurality of item reports from a plurality of corresponding
4 item-responsible persons.

1 8. The method of claim 6, wherein step (b) includes assigning an additional item to the at
2 least one other person having read-only access to the item report.

1 9. The method of claim 6, further comprising:
2 automatically providing a notice to the corresponding task-responsible person upon
3 completion of one of items.

1 10. The method of claim 6, wherein the data identifying the item contain a due date, the
2 method further comprising:
3 automatically providing a notice to the item-responsible person, the notice identifying the
4 due date, the notice being provided a predetermined number of days before the due date.

1 11. A computer-implemented system for managing a project, comprising:
2 means for receiving data representing attributes of a project from a project manager, the
3 project comprising at least one task;

4 means for receiving data identifying attributes of the task;
5 means for receiving data identifying an assignment of each task to at least one task-
6 responsible person;
7 means for automatically providing a notice to the task-responsible person , the notice
8 identifying the assignment of the task;
9 means for receiving at least one task report from the corresponding task-responsible
10 person;
11 a database storing data representing attributes of the project, data identifying attributes of
12 the task, data identifying an assignment of the at least one task, and the task report;
13 means for permitting the corresponding task-responsible person and the project manager
14 to edit the task report; and
15 means for permitting at least one other person to have a read-only access to the task
16 report.

1 12. The system of claim 11, wherein:
2 the project comprises a plurality of tasks;
3 the means for receiving attribute data identified attributes of each of a plurality of tasks;
4 and
5 the report receiving means receives a plurality of task reports from a plurality of
6 corresponding task-responsible persons.

1 13. The system of claim 11, wherein means for receiving assignment data identifies the
2 assignment of at least one other person having read-only access to the task report.

1 14. The system of claim 11, further comprising:
2 means for automatically providing a notice to the project manager upon completion of
3 one of the tasks.

1 15. The system of claim 11, wherein the data identifying attributes of the task contain a due
2 date, the system further comprising:

3 means for automatically providing a notice to the task-responsible person, the notice
4 identifying the due date, the notice being provided a predetermined number of days before the
5 due date.

1 16. The system of claim 11, wherein the task comprises at least one item, the system further
2 comprising:

3 means for receiving data representing attributes of the item;

4 means for receiving data identifying an assignment of the at least one item to at least one
5 item-responsible person;

6 means for automatically providing a notice to the item-responsible person, the notice
7 identifying the assignment of the task;

8 means for receiving at least one item report from the corresponding item-responsible
9 person;

10 a database storing data representing attributes of the task, data identifying an assignment
11 of the at least one item, and the item report;

12 means for permitting the corresponding item-responsible person, the corresponding task-
13 responsible person, and the project manager to edit the item report; and

14 means for permitting at least one other person to have a read-only access to the item
15 report.

1 17. The system of claim 16, wherein the task comprises a plurality of items, wherein:
2 the attribute data receiving means receives data representing attributes of a plurality of
3 items; and

4 the report receiving means receives a plurality of item reports from a plurality of
5 corresponding item-responsible persons.

1 18. The system of claim 16, wherein the assignment data receiving means identifies the
2 assignment of the at least one other person having read-only access to the item report.

1 19. The system of claim 16, further comprising:

means for automatically providing a notice to the corresponding task-responsible person upon completion of one of items.

20. The system of claim 16, wherein the data identifying the item contain a due date, the system further comprising:

means for automatically providing a notice to the item-responsible person, the notice identifying the due date, the notice being provided a predetermined number of days before the due date.

21. A computer readable medium with computer program code, wherein, when the computer program code is executed by a processor, the processor performs a method of managing a project, comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving data representing attributes of a project from a project manager, the project comprising at least one task;

(b) receiving data identifying attributes of the task;

(c) assigning the at least one task to at least one task-responsible person;

(d) automatically providing a notice to the task-responsible person, the notice identifying the assignment of the task;

(e) receiving at least one task report from the corresponding task-responsible person;

(f) providing the corresponding task-responsible person and the project manager read-write access to the task report; and

(g) providing at least one other person read-only access to the task report.

22. The computer readable medium of claim 21, wherein the project comprises a plurality of tasks;

step (b) includes receiving data identifying attributes of a plurality of tasks; and

step (e) includes receiving a plurality of task reports from a plurality of corresponding task-responsible persons.

23. The computer readable medium of claim 21, wherein step (c) includes assigning an additional task to the at least one other person having read-only access to the task report.

1 24. The computer readable medium of claim 21, wherein the method further comprises
2 automatically providing a notice to the project manager upon completion of one of the tasks.

1 25. The computer readable medium of claim 21, wherein the data identifying attributes of the
2 task contain a due date, wherein the method further comprises automatically providing a notice
3 to the task-responsible person, the notice identifying the due date, the notice being provided a
4 predetermined number of days before the due date.

1 26. The computer readable medium of claim 21, wherein the task comprises at least one item,
2 wherein the method further comprises:

3 (a) receiving data representing attributes of the item;

4 (b) assigning the at least one item to at least one item-responsible person;

5 (c) automatically providing a notice to the item-responsible person, the notice identifying the
6 assignment of the item;

7 (d) receiving at least one item report from the corresponding item-responsible person;

8 (e) providing the corresponding item-responsible person, the corresponding task-responsible
9 person, and the project manager read-write access to the item report; and

10 (f) providing at least one other person read-only access to the item report.

1 27. The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the task comprises a plurality of
2 items, wherein:

3 step (a) includes receiving data representing attributes of a plurality of items; and

4 step (d) includes receiving a plurality of item reports from a plurality of corresponding
5 item-responsible persons.

1 28. The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein step (b) includes assigning an
2 additional item to the at least one other person having read-only access to the item report.

1 29. The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the method further comprises
2 automatically providing a notice to the corresponding task-responsible person upon completion
3 of one of items.

30. The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the data identifying the item contain a due date, wherein the method further comprises automatically providing a notice to the item-responsible person, the notice identifying the due date, the notice being provided a predetermined number of days before the due date.

31. A computer-implemented opinion integration system, comprising:
means for receiving a plurality of patent related data;
means for sending a request for an opinion associated with the patent related data to a predetermined person;
means for receiving the opinion details;
a database for associating the opinion with the patent related data and for storing the opinion and the patent related data.

32. A computer-implemented information integration system, comprising:
a database for receiving a plurality of patent data;
the database for receiving a plurality of entity data;
the database for receiving a plurality of evidence data;
the database associating the patent data, the entity data, and the evidence data to each other and storing the patent data, the entity data, and the evidence data.

33. The system of claim 22, wherein the patent data comprises patent-identifying data and patent-abstract data.

34. The system of claim 22, wherein the entity data comprises entity-identifying data, entity-products data, and entity-finance data.

35. The system of claim 22, wherein the evidence data comprises product-analysis data and associated publication data.

36. The system of claim 25, wherein the product-analysis data comprises an outside reverse-engineering report and an internal reverse-engineering report.

1 37. The system of claim 25, wherein the associated publication data comprises paper-
2 publication data and website-publication data.

1 38. The system of claim 22, further comprising:
2 means for receiving a search query;
3 means for searching the database; and
4 means for presenting a search result.